

**SECRET**

8 December 1966

NSC Review Completed.

To Saigon for Mr. Allen:

1. as you will recall from the meeting in Under Secretary Katzenbach's office, Mr. Komer feels strongly that the grid as now structured gives too much weight to the civil development side (factors 4, 5, and 6) as opposed to military and security aspects (factors 1, 2, and 3). He believes that if the local military situation is favorable in a hamlet area and local security provided, the hamlet is well along toward being pacified. The necessary conditions for civil progress are then laid even though positive, tangible achievements in the civil sector may take a long time to register. In Mr. Komer's opinion, a rating system which precludes a high overall pacification grade until civil progress is so registered is unrealistic and will produce inaccurate, overly pessimistic conclusions.

2. Mr. Komer wants to be sure that his views are not only known to but carefully considered by all components of the US Mission and by the Mission Council when it formally reviews the grid measurement concept on 12 December. Will you therefore please make a point of presenting Mr. Komer's position clearly and explicitly to all concerned and ensure that his views are given full attention before any final decisions are made.

3. Please show this message to Ambassador Porter and any other officers he believes should see it.

End of Message

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